

Dkt. 2271/70912

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Akio ISHIDA and Hisashi ISHIHARA

Serial No.: 10/638,233

Date Filed: August 8, 2003

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Reg. No. 40,837

1185 Avenue of the Americas New York, N.Y. 10036 (212) 278-0400

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to the applicant's duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the references cited in the annexed Form PTO-1449 are also provided.

It is respectfully requested that the information cited in annexed Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, and that such art be made of record in said application.

The references listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 were cited in a October 4, 2005 Japanese Office Action in connection with Japanese Application No. 2002-233528 which corresponds to the above-identified application. A copy of the October 4, 2005 Office Action is enclosed. The remaining reference (JP2002-149363) cited in the October 4, 2005 Japanese Office Action were enclosed with the Information Disclosure Statement filed on September 16, 2005.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or

exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that these items are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of the particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3). To the best of Applicant's knowledge, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the date of mailing of a first Office Action on the merits in connection with this case.

Alternatively, Applicant requests consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1). Each item of information listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 was cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior hereto.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Teng, Reg. No. 40,837

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